

Fr. Joseph's Corner

These are the Prayer Intentions of Pope Leo XIV entrusted to his worldwide prayer network for 2026.

JANUARY — For prayer with the Word of God.

Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church.

FEBRUARY—For children with incurable diseases.

Let us pray that children suffering from incurable diseases and their families receive the necessary medical care and support, never losing strength and hope.

MARCH — For disarmament and peace.

Let us pray that nations move toward effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence.

APRIL — For priests in crisis.

Let us pray for priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer.

MAY — That everyone might have food.

Let us pray that everyone, from large producers to small consumers, be committed to avoiding wasting food and to ensuring that everyone has access to quality food.

JUNE — For the values of sports.

Let us pray that sports be an instrument of peace, encounter, and dialogue among cultures and nations, and that they promote values such as respect, solidarity, and personal growth.

JULY — For respect for human life.

Let us pray for the respect and protection of human life in all its stages, recognizing it as a gift from God.

AUGUST — For evangelization in the city.

Let us pray that, in large cities often marked by anonymity and loneliness, we find new ways to proclaim the Gospel and discover creative paths to build community.

SEPTEMBER — For the care of water.

Let us pray for a just and sustainable management of water, a vital resource, so that everyone may have equal access to it.

OCTOBER — For mental health ministry.

Let us pray that the mental health ministry be established throughout the Church, helping to overcome the stigma and discrimination against persons with mental illnesses.

NOVEMBER — For the proper use of wealth.

Let us pray for the proper use of wealth, that it may always be put at the service of the common good and the solidarity of those who have less, without succumbing to the temptation of selfishness.

DECEMBER — For single-parent families.

Let us pray for families experiencing the absence of a mother or father, that they may find accompaniment in the Church and help and strength in the Faith during difficult times.

—Prayer Wishes, Fr. Joseph

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE ON OUR PRAYER LIST:

David Leonard ♦ Steve Forrester ♦ Carl Johnson ♦ Dolores Koivisto ♦ Anita Marquez ♦ Ben Guyger
Georgia Fitzgerald ♦ Chuck Renwick ♦ Barbara Gadotti ♦ John Huthmacher ♦ Ed McNamara
Brittany ♦ Duncan Osgood ♦ Julie Bither ♦ Mary Bither ♦ Lyn Rodgers ♦ Fred Vandehey ♦ Ralph Lee
Mary Lee ♦ Jeanne Hackett ♦ Peggy Holtz ♦ Michael Kuenzi ♦ Mary Ellen Marquez ♦ Barbara Hopla
Gilbert Marquez ♦ Sam LeFevre and the LeFevre family ♦ Joanie Holland ♦ Kerry Loving ♦ Tara Lamb

St. Joseph Catholic Church

150 E First St., P.O. Box 1315, Prineville OR 97754
January 11, 2026 † The Baptism of the Lord Sunday

Vigil Mass Saturday 5:00 p.m.
Sunday Mass (English)* 9:00 a.m.
Sunday Mass (Spanish) 12:00 p.m.
Holy Days 8:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.
Mondays • Tuesdays • Thursdays 8:00 a.m.
Wednesdays • Fridays 12:00 p.m.
*Coffee and fellowship are served after the 9 a.m. Mass.

Pastor ♦ Very Rev. Fr. Joseph Kunnelaya T.
Secretary ♦ Darlene Counts

Parish Office Hours ♦ Monday – Thursday ♦ 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Parish Office Telephone: (541) 447-6475

Fr. Joseph: 9:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m. ♦ (541) 420-4458

Parish Website: <https://stjosephsprineville.org>

Email: stjosephparish@bendbroadband.com

Pastor: fatherjoseph@bendbroadband.com / joekunel55@gmail.com

Facebook: St. Joseph Parish / Instagram: st_josephparish

Director of Religious Education ♦ Barbara Dalton

OCIA ♦ Jim Friese / OCIA (Spanish) ♦ Yurizet Villasana

Parish Bulletin Designer / Editor ♦ Tina Hill



Confessions

Wednesdays: 11:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Saturdays: 3:30 – 4:30 p.m.

(other times by appointment)

Anointing of the Sick

Contact Fr. Joseph for this Sacrament

♦ DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET AND CENACLE GROUP: Every Monday after the 8 a.m. Mass.
♦ FRIDAY ROSARY at 11:30 a.m., MASS at 12:00 p.m., EXPOSITION of the Blessed Sacrament immediately following Mass, EUCHARISTIC ADORATION 1–2 p.m., BENEDICTION AND REPOSITION



Baptisms

Baptisms will be held on Saturdays.

Parents of children to be baptized must be registered members of the parish 6 months prior to baptism.

A Baptismal Preparation Class is mandatory for both parents and godparents.

For more information, call the Parish Office.

Marriages

Couples need to make an appointment with Fr. Joseph 6 months before the proposed date.

A Marriage Preparation Course is mandatory.

MASS INTENTIONS / READINGS FOR THE WEEK

The practice of requesting a Mass to be offered for loved ones, living or deceased, is a beautiful and wonderful part of our Catholic tradition.

Please Call the Parish Office to Have a Mass Intention Reserved

Monday	01/12/2026	8:00 am	Chuck Pentkowski (L)	1 Sm 1:1-8; Mk 1:14-20
Tuesday	01/13/2026	8:00 am	Michelle Fray (L)	1 Sm 1:9-20; Mk 1:21-28
Wednesday	01/14/2026	12:00 pm	Elle Maryanski (L)	1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20; Mk 1:29-39
Thursday	01/15/2026	8:00 am	Suzanne Posner (D)	1 Sm 4:1-11; Mk 1:40-45
Friday	01/16/2026	12:00 pm	Savanna King (L)	1 Sm 8:4-7; Mk 2:1-12
Saturday	01/17/2026	5:00 pm	Pierre Jones (D)	Is 49:3, 5-6; 1 Cor 1:1-3; Jn 1:29-34
Sunday	01/18/2026	9:00 am	LeFevre Family (L)	Is 49:3, 5-6; 1 Cor 1:1-3; Jn 1:29-34
Sunday	01/18/2026	12:00 pm	St Joseph Parishioners (L)	Is 49:3, 5-6; 1 Cor 1:1-3; Jn 1:29-34

(L) = Living ♦ (D) = Deceased

Today's Homily

TODAY WE STAND at a turning point in the Gospel. Christmas has ended.

The child in the manger steps into the waters of the Jordan as a grown man. The hidden life of Nazareth gives way to public mission. And in this quiet, powerful moment, God reveals who Jesus truly is.

John the Baptist is surprised. He knows who Jesus is. He knows that he should be baptized by Jesus, not the other way around. Yet Jesus insists:

“Let it be so now; for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.”

Why does Jesus, the sinless one, step into the waters meant for repentance?

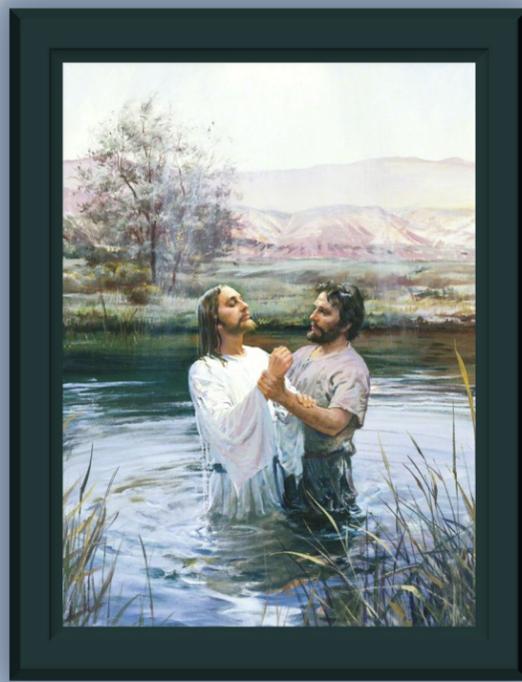
Because Jesus chooses solidarity. He does not save us from a distance. He steps into our brokenness, our weakness, our human condition. He stands in line with sinners, not because He needs cleansing, but because we do. From the very beginning of His ministry, Jesus shows us what kind of Savior He is: not above us, but with us.

As Jesus comes out of the water, something extraordinary happens. The heavens open. The Spirit descends like a dove. And the voice of the Father is heard:

“This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.”

This is a moment of revelation—the Trinity made visible. The Son stands in the water. The Spirit descends. The Father speaks. Before Jesus preaches a single sermon, before He performs a miracle, before He goes to the cross, the Father declares love and delight.

That's important. God does not say, “This is my Son because of what He will do.”



God says, “This is my beloved Son.” And that brings us to our own baptism.

In baptism, we are not just washed with water. We are claimed. We are named. We are loved. The same Father who spoke at the Jordan speaks over each of us:

“You are my beloved son.” “You are my beloved daughter.”

Before we achieve anything. Before we prove anything. Before we fail or succeed. God's love comes first.

Many people today struggle with identity. We define ourselves by our job, our success, our mistakes, our wounds, or the opinions of others. But baptism gives us our deepest identity: we belong to God.

The Baptism of Jesus also teaches us something about mission. Immediately after this event, Jesus is led by the Spirit into the desert. Baptism does not remove struggle; it gives us strength for it. Being baptized does not mean life will be easy—but it means we will never face life alone.

When we bless ourselves with holy water, when we renew our baptismal promises, we are reminded that we are called to live as Christ lived—with humility—with compassion—with courage—with trust in the Father.

Just as Jesus stepped into the waters for others, we are sent out of this church to step into the lives of others—to bring healing, forgiveness, justice, and hope.

Today, let us remember our baptism. Let us hear the Father's voice again—not as a distant sound—but as a living truth in our hearts:

“You are my beloved.” And like Jesus, strengthened by that love, may we walk faithfully into the mission God has entrusted to us.

January—The Month of the Holy Name of Jesus

Pancakes & Raffles

On the **first Sunday of each month, right after the 9 a.m. Mass**, our Knights of Columbus invite everyone to enjoy a delicious Pancake Breakfast. They serve eggs, sausage, ham, gravy and—naturally, fluffy pancakes—along with your favorite juice and endless coffee to start your day with a warm, happy spirit.

During breakfast, emcee George hosts a raffle featuring donated items—anything from a TV to a bookmark. Raffle tickets remain at just .50 cents. As you declutter this New Year, please consider donating to the Knights of Columbus (excluding clothes). Donations can be dropped off at the Parish Office.

Thank you for your support!

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Keys

It has come to our attention that some of the keys to the Parish Hall are being misused. As a result, we have decided that the best way to address the situation is to change the locks on the Parish Hall and doors leading into the classrooms/office. You may be assigned a new key at the Parish Office.

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Formed—Joseph of Nazareth

Currently showing on Formed is a film about the story of St. Joseph, carpenter, husband of Mary, and the foster father of Jesus Christ.

Scripture tells us that St. Joseph was a “just man” and that God gave him the most daunting task ever asked of a man—to be the husband of the woman who would give birth to the Messiah and to be the father and protector of this Holy Family. He would be the man closest to Christ!

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Worldwide Marriage Encounter

Bring the Holy Spirit into your marriage. Sign up today to attend the next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience, from **Friday, January 30th, to Sunday, February 1st**, in Beaverton, Oregon.

To apply for your WWME Experience or to search for other dates, go to rediscoverthespark.org.

For more information about WWME, please call (503) 704-0836 or send an email to: reservations@rediscoverthespark.org.

Diocese of Baker Men's Conferences in English & Spanish!

Join Catholic men from around the diocese for talks that inspire, conversations that strengthen, and prayer that helps us to become the husbands, fathers, and brothers God is calling us to be.

Please join us in The Dalles on Saturday, February 7th, for two Conferences in one Location!

For more information and/or to register, go to: dioceseofbaker.org/mens-conference or call Bryce at (541) 388-4004.

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Ordinary Time

Like all liturgical seasons, Ordinary Time calls us to reflect on particular mysteries of faith in a more focused way than in other seasons. As the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops notes: “The Sundays and weeks of Ordinary Time, on the other hand, take us through the life of Christ. This is the time of conversion. This is living the life of Christ. Ordinary Time is a time for growth and maturation, a time in which the mystery of Christ is called to penetrate ever more deeply into history until all things are finally caught up in Christ.”

During the brief period of Ordinary Time between Christmas and Lent, we can remember the hidden years Jesus spent with his family in Nazareth before the start of His public ministry. This ministry began with His 40 days of testing in the desert, which we recall during the season of Lent that immediately follows.

Pentecost calls to mind the birth of the Church and the commission of the Apostles to go out to the whole world to spread the Gospel. The subsequent return to Ordinary Time reminds us to “get to work” in the everyday, daily task of evangelizing in our daily lives.

The green vestments used in Ordinary Time further remind us of life and fruitfulness during the long summer growing season.

During autumn, as the days grow shorter, the readings of Ordinary Time take on a more apocalyptic tone, reminding us of Christ's second coming at the end of all time.

Ordinary Time thereby appropriately culminates in the feast of Christ the King. Then the Church's reflection on Christ's second coming as Judge flows seamlessly into a sense of joy at His first coming as a humble infant during the Advent season. And so, the whole cycle begins again.